

The Global Health and Population Weekly Digest

Your weekly summary of department news updates, research activities, events and available opportunities

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Air Pollution Exposure Disparities across US Population and Income Groups

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Association of Medicaid Reimbursement for Immediate Postpartum Long-Acting Reversible Contraception with Infant Birth Outcomes

GHP author Jessica L. Cohen

Safeguarding Essential Health Services during Emergencies: Lessons Learnt from the COVID-19 Pandemic

GHP author G. K. Mini

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PTI photo

Open Letter by 35 Doctors from across Country states 'India Overdoing Testing, Medication'

Published in *The Times of India*, Assistant Professor in the Department of Global Health and Population, **Satchit Balsari**, in collaboration with 34 additional distinguished doctors in India and abroad, have appealed to the central and state health authorities to stop these "unwarranted" practices and promote evidence-based medicine. Dr. Balsari noted: "Patients have struggled with misinformation around the world. While vaccine hesitancy has been one of the greatest challenges in America where vaccines are so widely available, the wanton use of unwarranted drugs pushed by medical professionals and state representatives in India has been disappointing. One would have hoped that the crushing toll of the Delta wave would have been cause for pause." [Read the full article here.](#)

Department News and Announcements

- **The department's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) Committee, on behalf of the Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center's CURE Program, is actively recruiting new mentors.** CURE is a research training program for Summer 2022, servicing local high-school and college students from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds. Currently celebrating its 20th anniversary, the highly sought after and well administered CURE program provides the required oversight to ensure meaningful impact and successful outcomes for their student trainees. This is a fantastic opportunity to not only give back to the Boston community, but to provide crucial exposure and training opportunities for graduate students and postdocs in the space of diversity and inclusion. [Click here to register](#) to host a CURE student with your basic science research group this summer. Over the past few years, the program has grown considerably to serve an average of 100 trainees each summer. They are seeking research placements with an interest in joining a research environment this summer. For additional information, please contact Karen Burns White, Program Director – kburnswhite@partners.org or Brittany Michel, Program Manager – Brittany_Michel@dfci.harvard.edu.
- Featured on NPR.org, **MPH candidates Issac Chan, and Edward Cliff in collaboration with Professor Salmaan Keshavjee, Director, Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery, co-authored an Op-Ed, [5 steps we must take to vaccinate the world's vulnerable—and end the pandemic](#).**
- The GlobalMentalHealth@Harvard Initiative Steering Committee is proud to announce [the Mental Health Care Leadership Champions Program](#) which will be delivered through the Executive and Continuing Professional Education at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The Certificate of Specialization comprises three programs, taught by faculty from the Harvard School of The Certificate of Specialization comprises three programs, taught by faculty from the Harvard School of Public Health, the GlobalMentalHealth@Harvard Initiative and an international pool of experts, embracing both empirical evidence and real-world lessons. Through this training and mentoring program, professionals from around the world will empower themselves to scale-up evidence-based and innovative programs to address the mental health needs of their communities with knowledge, skills, and peer support.
- Featured on NPR.org, **MPH candidates Issac Chan, and Edward Cliff in collaboration with Professor Salmaan Keshavjee, Director, Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery, co-authored an Op-Ed, [5 steps we must take to vaccinate the world's vulnerable—and end the pandemic](#).**

Recent Department Publications

- [COVID-19 and Children's Screen Time in Ceará, Brazil: A Repeated Cross-sectional Survey](#)

Researchers from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Federal University of Ceará evaluated the changes in exposure to screens during the COVID-19 pandemic among children less than six years of age in Ceará, Northeastern Brazil, in an article published in Journal of Children and Media. The proportion of children with screen exposure above recommended levels was 96.8% among 3–4-year-old and 84.2% among 5–6-year-old children. There was a significant increase in the proportion of 3–4-year-old children with elevated screen time (risk difference 15.8). These findings suggest that the necessary COVID-19 response measures appear to increase screen time among 3–6-year-old children in Ceará, Brazil. As a result, interventions to reduce excess screen time, potentially participation in remote early learning activities should be developed and evaluated in Brazil.

GHP Authors Hernano A.L. Rocha and Christopher R. Sudfeld

- [Effectiveness of a School-Based Educational Intervention to Improve Hypertension Control Among Schoolteachers: A Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial](#)

GHP Author G. K. Mini

- [Multisite, Mixed Methods Study to Validate 10 Maternal Health System and Policy Indicators in Argentina, Ghana and India: A Research Protocol](#)

GHP Authors R Rima Jolivet, Jewel Gausman, and Ana Langer

- ["Urgent Need for Evidence-based COVID Response": Experts Write to Centre, States](#)

GHP Author Satchit Balsari

- [2021 mistakes being repeated, stop unwarranted tests & medicines: Top doctors write to government](#)

GHP Author Satchit Balsari

Upcoming Events



The Planetary Health Colloquium

Planetary Mental Health: How Accelerating Environmental Change is Impacting the Mental Health of Different Populations

Presenter:
Frederick J. Stoddard Jr., MD
 Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Shriners Hospitals

Presenter:
Caroline Hickman, MS
 Lecturer, Department of Social & Policy Sciences, Centre for Analysis of Social Policy (CASP), University of Bath;

Presenter:
Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD
 Founding Dean, School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies, Labrador Institute, Memorial University

Discussant:
Lise Van Susteren, MD
 Practicing General and Forensic Psychiatrist, Washington, DC

Wednesday, 2 February 2022, 1:00 - 2:00 ET
 Registration: <https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJctfumvqz4oH9OFVqJvFTVjqptCoCJNvpbc>

Sponsors:
 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
 Departments of Environmental Health, Global Health and Population, Immunology and Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition.

Co-Sponsors:
 Harvard Global Health Institute, EEAC, Harvard University Center for the Environment, Planetary Health Alliance

Questions? Contact: shaunheller@hsph.harvard.edu

Planetary Mental Health: How Accelerating Environmental Change is Impacting the Mental Health of Different Populations

February 2, 2022 1-2PM EST, Zoom

[Register here](#)

The Planetary Health Colloquium began in October 2021 and will run through May 2022.

The fifth event in this series, [Planetary Mental Health: How Accelerating Environmental Change is Impacting the Mental Health of Different Populations](#), will be held virtually and additional information can be found on the [website](#).



[Special Maternal and Infant Topic with Dr. Julieta Kavetuna](#)

Tuesday, January 25 at 11am EST

[Click here to register](#)

Featured Thursday Brown Bag Speaker, **Dr. Julieta Kavetuna** will be speaking on a maternal and infant health topic sponsored by Maternal and Infant Health Canada. The webinar is free and open to all.

GHP 231

**Sexual and Reproductive Health:
A Global Perspective**
Taught by Dr. Ana Langer



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Women and Health Initiative



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Spring 1: Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:30am - 1:00pm

What do the Sustainable Development Goals mean for women?

What are the most critical sexual and reproductive rights?

What are the main obstacles women face to access quality maternal health services?

This course will draw on the analysis of research, programs and policies to provide a comprehensive survey of the reproductive health field.

Students will discuss, debate, and contribute from their own experiences in a highly interactive learning environment.

Upcoming Spring semester course: GHP 231 - Sexual and Reproductive Health: A Global Perspective

Taught by Professor of the Practice of Public Health and Director of the Women and Health Initiative, **Dr. Ana Langer**, this course will take place during Spring 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am-1pm

This course counts toward the Women, Gender and Health Concentration and the Maternal and Child Health/ Children, Youth and Families Concentration

Open Calls for Applications

- **Women, Gender and Health is now seeking applicants for the Student Staff Coordinator position for 2022-2023 Academic Year.** Eligible applicants include Masters and Doctoral students who will be a student in May 2023. This position is a great way to set priorities, lead events, and connect with faculty and researchers in women and gender health topics. For more information on what this position entails and the application process, please contact wgh@hsph.harvard.edu.
- **Intensive Summer Course on Migration and Refugee Studies in Greece.** Are you interested in learning more about refugee and migration rights? The FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, in collaboration with the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, and with the support of the Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies in Greece and the U.S, is offering a three-week intensive, interdisciplinary, summer course on migration and refugee studies in Greece. Harvard graduate students across all schools and degree programs may apply, but admission is limited to 15 individuals. The course offers you the opportunity to engage both conceptually and practically with key issues related to contemporary forced migration. **Applications are due February 15, 2022.** [Program details and application materials can be found here.](#)
- **The Harvard Humanitarian Initiative** is hiring and are looking for mission-driven people who want to make a difference in the humanitarian field globally. [Click here to view all open positions.](#)
- The Seeding Relations Conference Committee is thrilled to announce the virtual 2022 Mahindra Humanities Center Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference at Harvard University, Seeding Relations: Beyond Settler Colonial and Racialized Ecologies. This two-day online conference will be held on Zoom on Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26, 2022. [Click here for submission deadlines and application rules.](#)
- The Division of Nutritional Science at Cornell University has announced four open faculty positions. [Click here for more information.](#)

Opportunities in Global Health and Population

Academic Positions

- [Research Scientist in Health & Elderly Care Policy and Systems in China](#)
- [Post-Doctoral Fellowship with Kevin Croke and Margaret Kruk](#)

Staff Positions

- [Coordinator I \(Program Coordinator\)](#)

Internal Student Positions/Internships

- [Research Assistant: Improving Maternal Health Measurement Capacity and Use](#)
- [Quantitative Research Assistant – Memory and Migration Project, Mental Health For All Lab](#)
- [Qualitative Research Assistant – Memory and Migration Project, Mental Health For All Lab](#)

